III. REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-10 and 16-17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 9 and 10 have been amended herein; and, claims 6 and 12-15 are cancelled herein. Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserve the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Furthermore, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is requested.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 27 C.F.R §1.116(b) because the Amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance as discussed below; (b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration; and (c) places the application in better form for appeal. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment.

Claims 1-7, 9, 10, and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Koss (US Patent No. 5,231,577), hereinafter "Koss". Claims 8 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koss.

Applicants respectfully contend that there are several features of the claimed invention which are not taught by Koss. Moreover, Koss does not even entail the overall area of art that is addressed by the present invention, namely **importing multiple source text files**, each having specific formats, into a single spreadsheet. Emphasis added. For example, Koss does not teach or suggest the processing of multiple source text files. As

Appl. No. 10/615,505
Reply to Final Office Action of 04/19/2007

Page 7 of 10

discussed in the "Background of the Invention" section of the present disclosure, Koss does not, *inter alia*, offer "a general solution to the successive importation into a single spreadsheet of multiple source text files having specific formats." ¶0009. By way of example only, Applicants wish to particularly point out paragraph [0006] of the instant application where, in fact, Applicants disclose Koss as being one of several patents that, while offering some solutions for reducing the time required to repeat actions in conventional spreadsheets, does *not* offer the aforementioned general solution, as does the claimed invention.

In any event with respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that Koss does not disclose, *inter alia*, "importing the plurality of source text files into the single spreadsheet file after the creating the source-format link", further "wherein each source text file comprises a file recognized by a spreadsheet program as a text file". *See* amended claim 1, and similarly in independent claims 9 and 10. Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Koss only speaks to a method and system for processing formatting information *within* a spreadsheet (*see* Title; claim preambles) and not to any kind of importation, including importing multiple text files each having specific formats, as in the claimed invention. The formatting information that is used in Koss only pertains to a way to provide an improved spreadsheet application that assigns character attributes to spreadsheet cells so as to increase the memory capabilities of the application. Col. 1, lines 58-62. There is no importation of text files in Koss.

The Office alleges that Koss teaches the "importing the plurality of source text files into the spreadsheet file after creating the source-format link" (e.g., step c) at column 3, line 47 through column 5, line 62. Office Action, item 5, page 3.

With respect to the importing step (above), Applicants have reviewed both the large section cited, and Koss in its entirety. Applicants do not see any teaching of importing; importing of source text files; source text files; nor any of these attributes occurring after the creation of a source-format link in Koss. The cited section merely speaks, in general, about an XF table 114 which, as the "Summary of the Invention" section of Koss discloses, is a way of storing in a table (i.e., XF table) various cell attributes when a user is creating and/or using a spreadsheet. These cell attributes are not imported text files. There is no disclosure of any type of use of source text files (singular or multiple); nor is there any type of an importation of source text files as that term is used in the art. It is not clear to Applicants, based on the citation, how Koss could allegedly anticipate this limitation of the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request for more specific features and/or elements in the cited section of Koss that teach the claimed feature. For example, what in Koss are the source text files; what connotes "importing" in Koss; and, what specifically teaches the created source-format link (wherein the source-format link stores a format action applied to the spreadsheet file after an importing. *See e.g.,* Step "b" in claim 1).

In view of the foregoing, Koss does not anticipate the current invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections. Similarly, independent claims 9 and 10 are believe allowable for the same reasons stated above.

Dependent claims 2-5, 7, 8, 16 and 17 are believed allowable for the same reasons stated above, as well as for their own additional features.

IV. CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 19, 2007   /   Joseph J. Christian   /

                             Joseph J. Christian
                             Reg. No.: 51,560

Hoffman, Warnick & D'Alessandro LLC
75 State Street, 14th Floor
Albany, New York 12207
(518) 449-0044